FBIS DAILY REPORT

MIDDLE EAST & SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

21 JUNE 1983

PLO Affairs

"All mediation efforts to end the rebellion within Fatah have reached a deadlock and armed clashes between loyalists and dissidents are continuing in the Al-Biqa' valley," PLO deputy military commander Khalil al-Wazir announced early on 21 June at the end of an overnight session of the Fatah Revolutionary Council in Damascus. In his remarks, which were reported by KUNA, Al-Wazir said the Revolutionary Council had unanimously empowered the Fatah Central Committee to "take measures to deal with the problem" caused by the dissidents, whose latest military moves he termed as "the most dangerous development in the conflict." The dissident leaders themselves did not attend the Revolutionary Council meeting, which was attended by 55 of the 73 members, KUNA noted. A communique issued by PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat's office revealed that the council "sternly condemned" the rebels and "decided to establish several committees to undertake internal reforms to promote efficiency and unity within Fatah," according to AFP. Meanwhile, Voice of Lebanon radio indicated that the dissidents have gained ground in their attempt to secure positions commanding the section of the Beirut-Damascus highway in Al-Biqa'. Three people were killed in clashes between loyalists and dissidents on 20 June, the radio reported earlier.

The Revolutionary Council meeting followed a 7-hour Fatah Central Committee meeting in the Syrian capital after which 'Arafat announced in a statement reported by Aden Voice of Palestine radio that "Fatah will continue the struggle to preserve the independence of Palestinian decisionmaking." Meanwhile, in an interview reported by the Kuwaiti paper *Al-Qabas*, Fatah Central Committee Member Salah Khalaf stated that since the dissidents have rejected proposals that the crisis be settled by the Central Committee or the Revolutionary Council, the Fatah leadership will invite them to attend a Fatah General Congress as soon as possible. According to Algiers Voice of Palestine radio, Khalaf also announced that forthcoming reforms within Fatah will include decisive measures against "those who showed weakness during the Lebanon war, positive recognition for those who stood fast and struggled, consolidation of the collective leadership within Fatah, a political declaration reaffirming the rejection of the Reagan plan, and continued dialogue with the Fatah opposition leaders."

Lebanon

Two Syrian officers were killed in an armed ambush south of Tripoli, where factional clashes erupted later in the day, according to reports by Voice of Lebanon radio. The radio alsobroadcast a Phalangist Lebanese Forces Command Council statement denouncing Syria and its "agent," Walid Junblatt's Progressive Socialist Party, for seeking to paralyze daily life in the Christian area by resorting to "daily and programmed shelling."

Monitored Syrian and Israeli media neither confirmed nor mentioned a clandestine Radio Free Lebanon report that Israeli and Syrian forces in the Al-Biqa' valley exchanged artillery fire. The IDF spokesman denied a Beirut radio report that Syrian gunners fired at Israeli reconnaissance planes overflying the valley, Jerusalem radio noted.

Israel-Egypt

Egypt is to return its ambassador to Israel soon for a short time for "procedural reasons" owing to the ambassador's imminent retirement, Jerusalem radio reported citing an Egyptian Foreign Ministry spokesman. A new ambassador will be appointed "at once" to replace him, the spokesman said, but no conclusions should be drawn from this move. Monitored Egyptian media have not reported that Egypt plans to return its envoy to Tel Aviv.

Iran-Iraq Conflict

Iraqi forces killed 27 Iranians in fighting along the Maysan sector and 24 along the northern operational sector, according to an Iraqi military communique broadcast by Baghdad radio. Meanwhile, Iraq has asked the UN secretary general to send a factfinding mission to investigate the treatment of POW's both in Iran and Iraq, INA reported.

Afghanistan

A mine planted by Afghan insurgents killed the provincial defense secretary and four DRA Air Force officers in Faktia Province, according to Karachi radio and Tehran radio's Arabic service. In another development, insurgents claimed to have destroyed five Soviet tanks and armored vehicles in eastern Paktia Province, SPA Reported citing rebel sources.

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DRA Delegation to UNCTAD Returns to Kabul

LD201832 Kabul Domestic Service in Pashto 1530 GMT 20 Jun 83

[Text] Mohammad Khan Jalalar, minister of commerce and head of the DRA delegation, arrived home today after participating in the UNCTAD meetings in Belgrade.

At Kabul international airport he told the BAKHTAR correspondent that in these meetings discussions were held on the economic problems of the developing countries including financial and monetary problems.

In these meetings, Jalalar stated the problems of less developed countries in financial and monetary areas and specifically presented the views and proposals of the Afghan delegation to eliminate them.

At Kabul international airport the delegation was welcomed by Mohammed Nabi Mohammedi, minister of public health; deputy ministers and heads of departments of the Ministry of Commerce; representatives of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs' Protocol Department; and the Yugoslav ambassador in Kabul.

Karachi on Reports of Government-Rebel Clashes

BK171621 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 1500 GMT 17 Jun 83

[Text] Reports from Afghanistan speak of eight clashes between Afghan mujahidin and the Soviet-Karmal forces which have left at least 80 Soviet-Karmal soldiers dead and a number of tanks and trucks destroyed or damaged. A total of 33 Afghan mujahidin or civilians lost their lives. After these clashes, the Soviet-Karmal forces bombarded the (Qalamghazad), Jangal, and (Halqa Kol) areas and tried to search the rural area of Imam Saheb but were repulsed by the mujahidin. The mujahidin blocked a military convoy traveling near Imam Saheb. They attacked Imam Saheb town with the Qonduz governor's rest house as the direct target. The governor was out of town at that time, but four security guards were killed in this attack.

The most severe fighting between the Afghan mujahidin and the Soviet-Karmal forces took place in (Charsara) in the Khanabad area. In this fighting 36 Soviet-Karmal soldiers were killed and many wounded.

Afghan Mujahidin Take Part of Qonduz Province

BK190854 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 0600 GMT 19 Jun 83

[Text] In Afghanistan, the mujahidin are reported to have liberated the (Alqata) subdivision of Qonduz Province near the Soviet border on 31 May after 3 days of continuous fierce fighting with Soviet-Karmal forces. In the first week of this month, further fierce fighting took place between the mujahidin and Soviet-Karmal forces in Baghlan Province in which the mujahidin killed at least 40 Soviet-Karmal soldiers.

Tehran Turkish Reports Attack on Afghan Prison

GF191936 Tehran International Service in Turkish 1830 GMT 19 Jun 83

[Text] Muslim Afghan revolutionaries attacked the prison in Qandahar last night and killed three of the occupationist Soviet forces and Afghan Government troops. Another five of these forces were wounded. Meanwhile, the prison was heavily damaged as a result of the attack.

Karachi: Mujahidin Kill Provincial Secretary

BK200700 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 0600 GMT 20 Jun 83

[Text] In Afghanistan, mujahidin destroyed an official van in [words indistinct] cantonment killing 10 persons including the provincial defense secretary and four Air Force officers of the Karmal regime. According to reports, mines were laid on the road on 8 June, and when their van passed along the road it was blown up. Those killed included defense secretary (Mohammad Shafie Ahangar), his son and three (?officers).

Defense Minister, Officials Leave for Moscow

BK210804 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0730 GMT 21 Jun 83

[Text] The defense minister, Mr R.V. Venkataraman, left New Delhi today for Moscow on a 6-day official visit to the Soviet Union. He is accompanied by the defense secretary, Mr P.K. Kaul; vice chief of naval staff, Vice Admiral S. Kukherjee, Lt Gen Kaul and Air Marshal C.V. Gole.

During his stay in Moscow, Mr Venkataraman will discuss with the Soviet defense minister, Mr Ustinov, ways to expand the India-Soviet defense collaboration. He will also call on the Soviet prime minister, Nikolay Tikhonov, at the Kremlin on Thursday.

Reportage on Punjab's Akali Dal Situation

Punjab Minister Meets Gandhi

BK210434 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 21 Jun 83

[Text] The Punjab chief minister, Mr Darbara Singh, called on the prime minister last evening. He is understood to have discussed with Mrs Gandhi the overall situation in the state. He reportedly apprised her of the steps taken to meet the recent rail roko [blockade] agitation by the Akali Dal. Darbara Singh had also met the home minister, Mr Sethi, and the union home secretary separately to discuss the Punjab situation. Mrs Gandhi also discussed the Punjab situation with Mr Sethi.

Later, after reaching Ludhiana, the chief minister said his government will take strong measures to curb extremist activities in the state. He said the center has assured all assistance to check extremism. Despite assurances by the Akali Dal that the rail roko agitation will be peaceful, there had been cases of sabotage. He said the organizers cannot be absolved. The situation in Malerkotla is now peaceful and under control. The curfew has also been relaxed, he added.

Meanwhile, the Akali Dal president, Sant Harchand Singh Longowal, has claimed that his party was not indulging in any violence. He also claimed that the Dal's agitation was peaceful.

Merger of Factions Announced

BK210438 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 21 Jun 83

[Text] The Akali Dal High Command has begun a meeting in Amritsar to discuss the latest communication from the center on resuming talks for solving the Punjab tangle. The Akali Dal Master Tara Singh Group has merged with the Akali Dal led by Sant Longowal. The unconditional merger was announced in Amritsar last evening at a news conference by Sant Longowal and the leader of the Panthic party, Avtar Singh.

MP's Urge Security Discussion

BK200408 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 20 Jun 83

[Text] Five members of Parliament and two former MP's have appealed to the government that while holding discussions with Akalis, the security and safety of the people of Punjab should be given priority. In a statement issued in New Delhi last night, they said that unless such problems are settled, there can be no lasting peace in the state. The statement pointed out that murders are taking place and banks are looted. Fishplates were removed during rail roko [blockade] agitation. There are reports that Gurdwaras [Sikh temples] are being used to give refuge to criminals and to store arms. This state of affairs cannot last. Already trade and business have suffered. People are going about with a sense of fear. They said the government has already invited Sant Longowal for talks on the remaining Akali demands. The MP's said they do not deny that these demands should be discussed, but when talks are resumed all these aspects should be considered.

The signatories to the statement are: Mr K. Lakkappa, Mrs Sukhbans Kaur, Mr Dharamdas Shastri, Mr Jagdish Taytler, Mr J.K. Jain, Mr K.R. Ganesh, and Mr Shashi Bushan.

Opposition Parties Resolve To Work Together

BK171715 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 17 Jun 83

[Text] The Congress-S, the Democratic Socialist Party [DSP] and the Rashtriya Congress have resolved to function unitedly through a coordinating committee consisting of their presidents. The decision has been taken at a meeting of the presidents of the three parties, Mr Sharad Pawar, Mr H.N. Bahuguna and Mr (Rathu Bhai Arani). According to the general secretary of the DSP, Mr (Loknath), the meeting also set up joint panels to prepare common programs and policies.

Opposition Party Leaders on U.S. Envoy, Punjab

BK201615 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 20 Jun 83

[Text] The Lok Dal president, Mr Charan Singh, has denied the prime minister's charge that the opposition is exploiting the Punjab situation for its political ends. Addressing a news conference in New Delhi today, he said there was no crisis in Punjab during the Janata regime.

Mr Charan Singh accused the United States for encouraging the Khalistan demand. He urged the prime minister to ask for the withdrawal of the U.S. ambassador, Mr Harry Barnes, for equating the Khalistan demand with the movement for Puerto Rico's independence.

Mr Charan Singh said neither he nor his party will attend the 30 June meeting of opposition parties in New Delhi.

The Communist Party of India general secretary, Mr Rajeshwara Rao, has called upon the Akali Dal leadership to come out in a forthright manner against the extremist elements indulging in criminal activities. In a statement issued in New Delhi today, he said such elements must not be allowed to take cover of the Akali agitation.

Mr Rao denied Mrs Gandhi's allegation that the opposition is silent over the violent activities of the extremists.

The Bharatiya Janata Party has condemned the atmosphere of violence in Punjab. Addressing a news conference in Jammu today, the secretary of the party, Mr Vijay Kumar Malhotra, urged the Akali Dal to deplore acts of violence in the state in unequivocal terms.

INDIAN EXPRESS on Soviet-Aided Steel Plant

BK210549 Delhi Indian Express in English 6 Jun 83 p 6

[Editorial: "In the Doldrums"]

[Text] The news from Visakhapatnam is disquieting. The large integrated iron and steel plant under construction there is in the doldrums. Having launched it with Soviet collaboration and spent over Rs 525 crore on it the government finds it has run out of money. Work has progressed to a point where expenditure was to peak this year and next with estimated outlays of Rs 700 crore and Rs 900 crore respectively in this Rs 3,900 crore project. But the budgetary provision this year is Rs 187 crore against anactual expenditure of Rs 290 crore last year. In April only a little more than Rs 11 crore could be provided, bringing activity in many areas virtually to a standstill. The steel minister, Mr N.K.P. Salve, has announced that the government is looking for "external resources" to finance the plant over and above the Soviet credit of 390 million rubles which accounts for a tenth of the project cost. This is a desperate and unwise remedy and amounts to a confession of failure.

The muddle is inexcusable as the annual financial requirements for expeditious completion of the plant and ancillary facilities were known and presumably plotted on a pert chart. Yet, the government and Planning Commission have not provided sufficiently for this core project while allowing frivolous and unplanned extras to raid the national exchequer. The slowdown has caused serious embarrassment to the Soviets. The resultant cost escalation from avoidable overheads is going to put up the capital cost of the project and render it uneconomic or high-cost from the start. The multiplier effect of this on the economy can be imagined. The Thal-Vaishet fertiliser plant in Maharashtra has suffered grievous cost escalation because of a last minute reversal of technological collaboration arrangements as a result of gross political interference. The Korba aluminium plant has been crippled for lack of power. These and similar examples spell danger to the nation's economic health. It is strange that while the Visakhapatnam steel mill is in such parlous straits the minister should make a pretence to going ahead with the Daitari steel plant in Orissa. At least at this juncture wisdom should dawn on the need to consolidate, rather than fragment effort infructuously.

Yaqub Khan Seeks 'Clarifications' From Cordovez

BK201554 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 1500 GMT 20 Jun 83

[Text] The third round of the UN-sponsored indirect talks to seek a political settlement of the Afghanistan issue continued in Geneva for the 3d day today. ASSOCIATED PRESS OF PAKISTAN, citing informed sources, reported that the Pakistani delegation led by Foreign Minister Sahabzada Yaqub Khan asked for clarifications from the UN secretary general's personal representative on the Afghanistan issue, Diego Cordovez, on the latest stand adopted by the Karmal regime's delegation on major points for solving the issue. The agency says that most of these relate to two factors: the program for the withdrawal of troops from Afghanistan and guarantees of noninterference.

According to informed sources, further talks were also held today during which the formulation of the modalities for consultations on the return of Afghan refugees to their homes was discussed. The spokesman of the Pakistani delegation said that Foreign Secretary Niaz A. Naik was due to meet the Iranian envoy in Geneva, (Nasrullah Kamyab), to brief him on the progress of the talks.

MRD Modifies Controversial Program for Unity Sake

GF191100 Dubayy Khaleej Times in English 19 Jun 83 p 20

[Correspondent's report]

[Excerpt] Islamabad — The Movement for Restoration of Democracy (MRD) has decided to rename its controversial 31-point programme and modify certain points to meet objections by two parties of the eight-party alliance, it was learnt here yesterday.

The modified programme known as the "Charter of Demands" has been endorsed by six parties. The Tehrik-e-Istiqlal Party is totally opposed to any expansion of the original four-point programme of the movement.

The Tehrik maintained that the 31-point programme was sort of an election manifesto which is beyond the scope of the MRD. It contends that the MRD is only an alliance for the sole purpose of reviving of democracy.

And the Jamiat Ulema Islam, (JUI), on the other had not taken any decision and has temporarily decided to remain dormant in the alliance till August one in order to faciliate reconciliation with a dissident faction of the JUI.

MRD sources here indicated that the main objection to the programme had been usage of the word "nationalities" for the provinces which emphasised ethnic and linguistic divisions. The objection has been conceded and the programme has been modified substituting the word "nationalities" with "federating units."

The programme called for a solution of the Kashmir question in the light of Simla Accord. The amended programme reiterates Pakistan's long-standing contention that the right of the people of Kashmir to self-determination should be secured.

The modifications were arrived at the Karachi meeting of the MRD early this month. The meeting also called upon the Tehrik to raise any queries within the meeting of the MRD instead of taking up the issue to the press.

However, as a compromise, the meeting had decided that the two parties were at liberty to reserve their opinion on the programme.

Defunct Political Parties Form Alliance

GF171308 Karachi Dawn in English 15 Jun 83 p 1

[Text] The defunct Pakistan National Party (PNP) and the defunct Pakistan Socialist Party (PSP) have concluded a political alliance pledging to struggle for the restoration of people rights in the country.

A joint declaration, signed by Mr Ghous Baksh Bizenjo and Mr C.R. Aslam, presidents of the two defunct political parties, called upon forces to join hands for realisation of political, social and economic rights of the people.

The two defunct political parties agreed on a 12-point charter covering different problems and asserting the need for struggle to make Pakistan a truly prosperous, selfreliant and genuinely independent and democratic country.

The charter laid emphasis on an independent foreign policy, based on support to anti-imperialist and anti-racist movements, establishment of friendly relations with neighbouring countries, support to Afghan revolution and support to world peace and liquidation of atomic weapons.

The following points have been agreed by the two political parties:

1) An end to alignment with world capitalist system and dependence on (foreign) loans;

2) Increase in trade with Third World countries (including Islamic countries) and socialist countries, transfer of technology from those countries to Pakistan and establishment of basic industries;

3) An end to big zamindaris [land ownership] through land reforms, free distribution of land to landless peasants, cooperative farming, lowering the rates of land revenue and water taxes, exemption from land up to 25 acres from Ushr; [tithes]

4) Decrease in indirect taxes;

5) Curtailment of unproductive expenditure;

6) Security of service for workers; determination of minimum wage, unfettered guarantee for trade union rights and an end to anti-labour laws;

7) Industrialisation on the basis of clearly defined planning;

8) Complete freedom to speak and write, complete freedom for political activities, press freedom, freedom in religious matters for people holding different faiths and creeds;

9) Framing of the educational system and curricula on scientific and technological basis, the establishment of democratic atmosphere in educational institutions;

10) Acceptance in principle of equality between the sexes, and an end to political, economic and social discrimination on the basis of sex, colour, race and religion;

11) The establishment of constitutional government through elections, the achievement of provincial autonomy in constitution as well as in practice;

12) Independent foreign policy, based on support to anti-imperialist and anti-racist movements, establishment of friendly relations with neighbouring countries, support to Afghanistan revolution and support for world peace and liquidation of atomic weapons.

The two defunct parties have also agreed to launch a struggle against martial law and also for the establishment of an elected government.

They have also resolved to work with other political parties for the establishment of a constitutional government through elections.

The political alliance between the defunct PNP and defunct PSP is second after the imposition of martial law in the country in July 1977. Earlier, eight political parties formed the movement for the Restoration of Democracy (MRD) over two years back.

Pakistani Political Leader Meets Soviet Official

GF171534 Karachi Nawa-e Waqt in Urdu 14 Jun 83 International Edition p 1

[By staff correspondent]

[Text] Sialkot, 13 June: The head of the defunct Baluchistan Tehrik-i-Istiqlal Party, Mr Khudai-Noor, said at the session of the Sialkot District Bar Association that the lawyers' struggle is commendable and if it continues, one does not know what may happen [as published].

He added: The voice that has risen from Baluchistan for tribal unity cannot be endorsed because I believe in one nation. He said: Baluchistan is an underdeveloped province. It is larger in area than the other provinces but has a smaller population. He said: There have been revolutions in Iran and Afghanistan but both of them are different. In the latter it has been brought about through the Soviet Union while in the former, it was brought about by the people. Now the Soviet Union's eyes are reaching Pakistan through Afghanistan. He said: I met a Soviet representative who had spoken to some students earlier and he openly said: "We come when we are called and such conditions are being created. We do not go anywhere ourselves; the people there call us." The session was also addressed by Malik Hamid Sarfaraz.

NEPAL

King Congratulates PRC President Li Xiannian

BK191556 Katmandu External Service in English 1450 GMT 19 Jun 83

[Text] His majesty the king has sent a message of warm felicitations to Li Xiannian on his appointment to the highest office of the president of the People's Republic of China. Recalling with pleasure the many opportunities his majesty and Mr Li Xiannian have had together to exchange views on matters of mutual interest, his majesty noted in the message, (?make him additionally) confident that during the tenure of the office the close friendly relations existing between our two countries will be further strengthened to our mutual advantage.

Prime Minister Congratulates PRC Leaders

BK191554 Katmandu External Service in English 1450 GMT 19 Jun 83

[Text] Prime Minister Surya Bahadur Thapa has sent a message of sincere congratulation to Ulanhu on his appointment as vice president of the People's Republic of China. In his message, Prime Minister Thapa has wished Ulanhu all success and expressed the confidence that the close and friendly ties between the two countries will be further strengthened in the years to come.

Prime Minister Thapa has also extended a message of hearty congratulations to Zhao Ziyang on his appointment as the premier of the State Council of the People's Republic of China. In the message Prime Minister Thapa has wished Mr Zhao all success and expressed the confidence that close and friendly relations so happened to existing [as heard] between Nepal and the People's Republic of China and will be further strengthened during the tenure of Mr Zhao's office.

AFP: Thapa Opponents Seek No Confidence Vote

BK181608 Hong Kong AFP in English 1534 GMT 18 Jun 83

[Text] Katmandu, June 18 (AFP) — The National Panchayat (council) is meeting tomorrow for the national exchequer's budget for the 1983/84 (July) fiscal year and to discuss the country's present socio-economic and political situation.

A row in the Panchayat between opponents and partisans of Prime Minister Surya Bahadur Thapa was intensified when the opponents started collecting signatures to table a vote of no confidence against Mr. Thapa. The anti-Thapa group is led by Lokendra Bahadur Chand, the former chairman of the National Panchayat who in the event of Mr. Thapa's downfall is likely to be recommended by the house to the king for his appointment as the prime minister of Nepal. With the 35 member Council of Ministers, Mr. Thapa's position seems to be strong enough to challenge his opponents in the National Panchayat.

According to the post-1980 constitutional amendment, at least 25 percent of the total 140 members of the unicameral national legislature would have to sign the motion of vote of no confidence to table it in the house. In order to outvote Mr. Thapa, at least 60 percent of the 140 members must vote against him to oust him from the country's highest executive post. But this move would be successful only when the king's 28 nominees back the anti-Thapa group of the National Panchayat members.

In an interview with AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE, Mr. Thapa said that his position in the house was quite strong. "I enjoy fullest confidence of the National Panchayat and I am prepared to face the challenge of the anti-group who are now in the minority," he said.

Mr. Thapa said Nepal's current delicate economic situation was mainly due to the impact of the world recession and crop failure in 1982. But he added that he was determined to take effective measures to improve the country's economic and trade situation. Asked whether he was contemplating a cabinet reshuffle to strengthen his position in the house, Mr. Thapa said "I don't think it is necessary and I have not yet thought about it."

Attempt To Table Fails

BK201339 Hong Kong AFP in English 1322 GMT 20 Jun 83

[Text] Katmandu, June 20 (AFP) — Opponents of Prime Minister Surya Bahadur Thapa appear to have failed in their attempt to oust the Nepalese head of government during the opening session of the 34th National Panchayat (council). In the Panchayat opening session yesterday, plans by an anti-Thapa group of legislators to force the prime minister to resign appeared to have been foiled when the group failed to win a test of strength in a council leadership election. The anti-Thapa group had hoped to table a scheduled vote of no confidence against the prime minister in order to force him to step down. In the event that Mr. Thapa resigned, Lokendra Bahadur Chand, leader of the anti-Thapa group, was expected to be appointed prime minister.

According to the country's 1980 constitution, a move to table the no-confidence motion would have needed to receive 25 percent of the council's 140 members. When the anti-Thapa group's candidate for a vacant seat on the council's steering committee received only 23 votes, it was clear they did not have the voices needed to challenge the prime minister.

King Birendra is scheduled to address the Panchayat session tommorrow, when he is expected to announce the government's economic and political programs for the 1983-1984 fiscal year beginning July 15. The royal speech should also detail new measures to deal with the effects of the international recession on the Nepalese economy and the serious situation caused by the country's 1982 crop failure.

SRI LANKA

Delhi Reports Sri Lanka Curfew Extended

BK181423 Delhi General Overseas Service in English 1330 GMT 18 Jun 83

[Text] Sri Lanka has extended the national emergency now in force for an unspecified period. The month-long emergency was imposed last month after parliamentary byelections and civil poll. Officials feel that it will be premature to allow the emergency to lapse, though normalcy has returned even in Trincomalee port town where curfew is in force.

Amirthalingam Seeks Alternative to Eelam Demand

BK171244 Colombo Sun in English 11 Jun 83 p 1

[By Ranil Weerasinghe]

[Text] The Tamil United Liberation Front (TULF) is willing to reconsider its call for Eelam and go before the people with a 'genuine alternative', opposition leader A. Amirthalingam said yesterday.

The TULF, he told *Sun*, was not itself in position to change the mandate it had received in 1977 to move for a separate state, but they were willing to resign their seats and call upon the people to endorse any 'reasonable solution' that could be reached in respect of the problems of the Tamils.

"I am fully confident that more than 90 per cent of the people will go along with the official line of the TULF and I believe that the climate is good to seek an end to the burning problem", he asserted.

There must however be a genuine desire not only from the government but also the opposition parties like the SLFP [Sri Lanka Freedom Party] to move for a solution.

"The people should remember", he said,"that it had been the TULF which had stood for a federal form of government for more than 25 years before it had been forced in 1977 to call for a separate state,"he said.

Commenting on the dialogue that had gone on to date, Mr. Amirthalingam said the TULF would initially like the government to at least implement the decisions taken.

"The reason why the TULF could not offer any reply to the 'tigers' pamphlet warfare before the local government elections, was the fact that we had nothing concrete to show the people other than the empty shell of the development councils.

"We, the Tamil people, are asking only that our right to self determination be recognised.

"After this underlying principle of equality is attained one can always negotiate for there are various degrees of autonomy that are applicable here.

"I firmly believe that other than for a handful of irresponsible people, the rest will be behind the TULF in whatever course of action it chooses to follow", he added.

1983-84 Aid Grants To Reach $500 Million

BK171124 Colombo International Service in English 1045 GMT 17 Jun 83

[Excerpt] Sri Lanka will receive $500 million of foreign aid for the year 1983-84. This is an 11 percent increase compared to last year, according to Minister of Finance and Planning Ronnie de Mel. The minister was speaking to reporters after a 1-day meeting of the Sri Lanka Aid Consortium in Paris. It was attended by 16 donor countries and chaired by the World Bank.

Mr de Mel said the amount pledged was more than expected. It would help the country to bridge a large foreign exchange gap while the government was attempting to cut its balance of payment current account deficit.

PDRY Foreign Minister Continues Visit to Country

Meeting With Khamene'i

LD191359 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 19 Jun 83

[Text] Mr 'Abd al-'Aziz ad-Dali, the foreign minister of the People's Democratic Republic of Yemen, who is currently visiting our country at the head of a high-ranking delegation, this morning met with President Seyyed 'Ali Khamene'i. Our country's minister of foreign affairs, Mr Velayati, and the ambassadors of South Yemen and Iran were also present at this meeting. During the meeting, first the foreign minister of South Yemen expressed delight over the visit and stated the need for further expansion of relations between the two countries. Mr ad-Dali added: On behalf of the president and Muslim nation of South Yemen, I am conveying a message of thanks and greetings to the president and the heroic nation of Iran; we feel that the victory of the Islamic revolution in Iran has provided the nation of Yemen with a great deal of support, and we announce that right from the beginning we have been on the side of the Iranian Islamic revolution and we shall remain so.

Afterwards, Mr Khamene'i, referring to the relations between the two Muslim and brother countries said: As you mentioned, the historic links between the two nations of South Yemen and Iran are strong; fortunately, today, when the Islamic Republic of Iran views countries of the region it sees your country as one of the frontline states in the struggle against global arrogance. At present the United States and global arrogance as a whole, increase their activities in the Middle East region daily, and we have always recommended to the members of the Steadfastness Front that they increase their concentration around a stable axis vis-a-vis U.S. pressure.

Received by Velayati

GF181902 Tehran International Service in Arabic 1430 GMT 18 Jun 83

[Text] Foreign Minister 'Ali Akbar Velayati today received PDRY Foreign Minister 'Abd al-'Aziz ad-Dali who is currently visiting Tehran leading a delegation from his country. Mr Velayati noted during this meeting the recent developments in the Middle East particularly the situation in Lebanon. He said: Although more than a year has passed since Israel invaded and occupied Lebanon, those who claim to struggle against Zionism have not made a single move in order to expel the aggressors. Mr Velayati stressed the importance of eliminating tension and establishing security in the Persian Gulf region. He called for bolstering relations between the Islamic Republic and the PDRY in all fields.

PDRY Foreign Minister ad-Dali in turn denounced the Zionist and imperialist plots in the Middle East and the conspiracies against the Islamic Republic of Iran. He said: Many Arab countries responded with silence to these conspiracies and the Zionist invasion of Lebanon. The PDRY foreign minister called for developing his country's relations with the Islamic Republic of Iran on all levels.

Talks With Velayati Continue

LD192338 Tehran IRNA in English 2001 GMT 19 Jun 83

[Text] Tehran, June 19, IRNA — Dr. 'Abd al-'Aziz ad-Dali the People's Democratic Republic of Yemen (PDRY) foreign minister and his Iranian counterpart commenced their second round of talks here today.

In this meeting an aid in the form of cheque by the Islamic Republic to the flood stricken people of Yemen was presented to the Mr. ad-Dali. The aid has been proposed by the cabinet and ratified by the Majlis.

Dr. ad-Dali while thanking the Islamic Republic on behalf of the people and government of his country, referred to the donation as a token of intimate friendship between the two countries and hoped that his country could return the favours of the Islamic Republic in future.

Also the results of the talks that the PDRY delegation had held with the officials of the fishing, agriculture and tobacco officials were reviewed in this meeting.

Meanwhile the ministers of foreign affairs, industry and commerce have assigned a committee to draft the memorandum of understanding between the two countries.

The first round of talks between the two officials took place Saturday 18th June, and till now the PDRY delegation has held talks with the Islamic Republic president, minister of state and head of the plan and budget organisation and the agriculture and rural development minister.

The PDRY delegation headed by that country's foreign minister arrived here on 16th June.

Ad-Dali, Velayati on Visit

LD201359 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 20 Jun 83

[Text] PDRY Foreign Affairs Minister 'Abd al-'Aziz ad-Dali, who visited Iran at the head of an economic and political delegation, left Tehran this morning after signing an agreement on oil, commercial, technical, and economic cooperation with our country's foreign minister. Before his departure he gave an interview to our correspondent on the outcome of his visit to Iran:

[Begin Ad-Dali recording in Arabic fading into superimposed Persian report] Bilateral political, economic, industrial, and agricultural relations, and issues dealing with planning and budget were discussed during the visit. Expressing his pleasure and satisfaction with the results of his talks with high-ranking Islamic republic officials, he said: We held talks with Iranian Foreign Minister Velayati on issues related to the Middle East, particularly the recent invasion of Lebanon by imperialism and Zionism and the inherent dangers, including the possibility of Israel's widescale invasion of Syria. We had an identity of views on all issues concerning imperialism and global Zionism.

Commenting on the recent treaty between the occupying Al-Quds regime and the Lebanese Government, the PDRY minister of foreign affairs said: This treaty is in fact imposed by U.S. imperialism; it contravenes Lebanese sovereignty and security and that of the whole region, particularly Syria. Consequently, it involves great dangers. Therefore, we must confront this colonial policy of imperialism and Zionism aimed at bringing the Middle East under their full domination. He added: We believe that the imposed Israeli-Lebanese treaty is detrimental to all Muslim countries, whether Arab or non-Arab. In conclusion he expressed his conviction that the outcome of the visit will be constructive in that subsequent steps will be taken to secure and expand bilateral cooperation in other fields. [end recording]

Our correspondent conducted an interview on this subject with our country's foreign affairs minister, which we will hear now:

[Begin recording] [unidentified correspondent] Mr Velayati, could you tell us what results the two countries have achieved following the PDRY foreign minister's visit to Iran?

[Velayati] In the name of God, the compassionate, the merciful. PDRY Foreign Minister 'Abd al-'Aziz ad-Dali's visit was made on my invitation and aimed at expanding and developing relations between the Islamic Republic of Iran and the PDRY. This is the second visit to the Islamic Republic of Iran at the foreign ministerial level.

The chief focus of the talks — in addition to political issues affecting and facing both countries and the Islamic world in general and the peoples in the region — concerned the Palestine issue, Lebanon, the Israeli onslaught against Lebanon, the adverse consequences of this onslaught, the compromises being worked out and the manly resistance put up by countries such as Syria and by Palestinian fighters and strugglers in Lebanon.

Ad-Dali also held talks with the industry minister, the agriculture minister, other officials in these ministries, and officials at the Oil Ministry. He also met with the president and prime minister. Overall, these talks were constructive and positive. It was decided that in the near future a trade and economic delegation will visit the PDRY; I have also been invited to pay a visit to Yemen.

Certain grounds have been prepared, and a memorandum of understanding has been concluded, chiefly concerning trade and economic exchanges between the two countries. Our country is to send crude oil to the PDRY to be refined, which will help the needs of our own domestic oil products. In addition, an arrangement was made regarding fish imports from that country. Our country is to export items such as ready-made suits to the PDRY. In all, the visit was a constructive and positive one in the interests of both countries and in further consolidating the ties between the two countries.

[Unidentified correspondent] As you yourself noted, we are observing the fact that attacks against Lebanon by the regime occupying Jerusalem are being stepped up with U.S. cooperation. There is also the fear of attacks against Syria by the regime occupying Jerusalem. What was discussed with the PDRY foreign minister on joint decisions by Islamic countries in this regard?

[Velayati] We also held detailed talks in this regard. We arrived at some agreement on supporting the resistance put up by Syria and by Palestinian fighters and on extending our efforts in that direction. It is clear that the Israeli onslaught against Lebanon is in line with the earlier Zionist intention to carve up an empire extending from the Nile to the Euphrates under Zionist domination.

It would be simple-mindedness on our part to imagine that by treating Israel with leniency and moderation it would withdraw from the occupied territories. The movement that has now begun among the Lebanese and Palestinian Muslims and the brilliant efforts that are being made against Israel and the Zionist occupationists, we can almost say that this movement has paralyzed the Israeli army and state. The demonstrations held inside Israel against the presence of the Israeli occupation force in Lebanon are not intended to support the Muslims and the oppressed but to protest against the increasing level of Israeli casualties inside occupied territories. We are confident that Lebanon will prove to be a quagmire for Israel, that Israel will be forced to withdraw from Lebanon in disgrace, and that concluding an agreement smacking of compromise with and moderation and leniency toward Zionist aggressors would indeed be treacherous for the aspirations of Muslims. [end recording]

Delegation Concludes Official Visit to Japan

Ardabili-Abe Talks

LD172246 Tehran IRNA in English 1915 GMT 17 Jun 83

[Text] Tokyo, June 17, IRNA — On his fourth day of an official visit to Japan, deputy foreign minister of the Islamic Republic of Iran, Hoseyn Kazempur Ardabili held a 40-minute talk with Japanese Foreign Minister Shintaro Abe Friday.

An Iranian official here told IRNA that Ardabili conveyed Iran's "neither East nor West" policy and expressed willingness to continue friendly relations with Japan.

The official added that Ardabili also stated that the Islamic Republic of Iran considered Japan an eastern country because of its cultural and geographical situation and said that he felt there were a wide range of areas for the expansion of relations. Ardabili also spoke about Iran's desire for peace and stability in the Middle East region, the official added.

The Japanese foreign minister is due to visit the Islamic Republic during his trip to the Middle East in late July. Abe said in today's meeting that he expected to have further deliberations with Iranian officials in Tehran on further expansion of relations.

Iran's ambassador to Japan, 'Abdol Rahim Govahi, and a number of other Iranian Foreign Ministry officials were present in the talks.

Kazempur Ardabili arrived here Tuesday, heading a high-ranking politico-economic delegation

Report on Departure

LD191256 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 19 Jun 83

[Text] Our country's high-ranking political-economic delegation led by the economic and international affairs under secretary of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, which went to Japan for an official 5-day visit at the invitation of that country's government, left Tokyo at noon today. On the basis of a report received, during three rounds of talks with the top officials of the Japanese Foreign Ministry, the delegation of the Islamic Republic of Iran exchanged views and discussed bilateral political and economic relations, international issues, particularly the Middle East situation, and cooperation between the two countries in the technical and cultural fields. During its tour in Japan, this delegation also visited industrial units including electronics and car manufacturing factories and studied the possibility of purchasing Iran's technological requirements from Japan.

Transport Minister Departs for Bulgaria, SFRY

LD201615 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 20 Jun 83

[Text] Roads and Transport Minister Hadinezhad-Hoseyniyan is leading a delegation which left this morning for Bulgaria and Yugoslavia. Before his departure he spoke to our correspondent about the reason for the visits.

[Begin recording] [Hadinezhad-Hoseyniyan] In the name of God the merciful, the compassionate. Naturally, what we will do during the visit is to inspect and study mainly transportation, road construction, railway tracks, and locomotive manufacturing. We already have an agreement with Bulgaria on overland transport. Certain amendments were made to this agreement after the revolution. During this visit we shall try, God willing, to secure some facilities for Iranian drivers who go to Bulgaria.

[Unidentified correspondent] As for the purchase of trucks, do you expect to have any talks on this matter?

[Hadinezhad-Hoseyniyan] Obviously we do have plans to purchase trucks. As for purchasing them from these two countries, we shall have to see. Should the terms be favorable, then we shall make appropriate decisions.

[Correspondent] Is there any possibility of cooperation with these two countries in transferring technology as well as purchasing trucks and railway tracks?

[Hadinezhad-Hoseyniyan] As far as Yugoslavia is concerned, we already have some transactions with it regarding railways. Yugoslavia has already made proposals to change our less powerful locomotives into more powerful ones. This is something which is being dealt with by the experts. However, more study is needed before it is finalized.

As for port construction, Yugoslavia, too, has made some proposals, along with other countries, with regard to 11 new ports which we plan to build in Hormozgan Province. The Yugoslav proposals should be compared with other proposals before a decision is made.

[Correspondent] Is there any possibility of concluding an agreement or a memorandum of understanding between Iran and Bulgaria or Iran and Yugoslavia?

[Hadinezhad-Hoseyniyan] Yes, there is a great possibility of signing a memorandum of understanding with both countries. [end recording]

Arrives in Sofia

GF210702 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0430 GMT 21 Jun 83

[Text] Minister of Roads and Transport Hadinezhad-Hoseyniyan, who is heading a delegation to Bulgaria and Yugoslavia for talks on expanding mutual cooperation in the field of transportation with officials of the two countries, arrived in Ankara for a short visit. He met and held talks with Turkish Prime MinisterBulent Ulusu on relations between the two countries.

According to IRNA, the Turkish prime minister, while delivering a friendly message from the Turkish president and himself to the president and the prime minister of our country, expressed a desire for officials of the Islamic Republic of Iran to visit Turkey.

The same report adds that afterward Mr Hadinezhad-Hoseyniyan left Ankara for Bulgaria and was received by the Bulgarian minister of transportation, officials, and the staff of the Iranian Embassy at Sofia airport. The report also says that during the short discussion between the Iranian and Bulgarian ministers of roads and transportation at the airport, the Bulgarian minister expressed his country's willingness to conclude a mutual agreement similar to that between Iran and Turkey in the field of transportation.

UNCTAD Delegation Visits Yugoslav Republics

LD191308 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 19 Jun 83

[Text] The economic delegation of the Islamic Republic of Iran which has gone to Belgrade to participate in the sixth UNCTAD conference visited the capitals of Slovenia and Croatia during the past 2 days at the invitation of officials of these two republics. During these visits, the delegation held talks with the officials of these republics on the expansion of relations between Iran and Yugoslavia.

At a meeting with the deputy president of Slovenia, the under secretary of the Ministry of Economic and Financial Affairs of the Islamic Republic of Iran expounded the economic policy of

the Islamic Republic based on expansion of relations with developing countries and a reduction of economic dependence on industrial countries.

IRNA: Iraqi Muslims Attack Brazilian Residence

LD121004 Tehran IRNA in English 0932 GMT 12 Jun 83

[Text] London, June 12, IRNA — At least 30 people were killed and several others injured when Muslim Iraqi mujahideen exploded the dormitory of Brazilian experts working in Al-Haditthah, Emadiyyeh [as received] Province in Iraq, Friday morning.

In a telephone call to IRNA office here, a spokesman for the mujahideen said that the explosion took place following repeated warnings to foreign experts residing in Iraq to stop rendering their assistance to Saddam's shaky regime.

Since the warnings were not taken seriously by the foreign experts, the dormitory of the Brazilians was exploded, destroying four caravans and damaging nine others, he added.

The spokesman said that head of the Brazilian experts is among the dead, once against [as received] — reiterating the warning.

He noted that Muslim mujahideen returned to their position safe are the operation. [sentence as received]

Defense Minister Says Terms To End War Same

LD211115 Tehran IRNA in English 0913 GMT 21 Jun 83

[Text] Ahvaz, June 21, IRNA — Defence Minister Col. Salimi said here Monday that Iran's conditions to end the Iraqi imposed war were still the same as were announced at the time of its outbreak.

Speaking at a ceremony to mark the second anniversary of Dr. Mostafa Chamran's martyrdom in the southern city of Susangerd, the minister reiterated that the aggressor should withdraw the Islamic Republic, should pay war indemnities and should be condemned by the world's well-thinkers to prevent the repeatation of such an incident in the region.

Addressing the Iraqi pilots who had shelled Iranian residential areas, Col. Salimi stressed that they would be tried as war criminals after the war was ended.

He noted that spread of the message of the Islamic revolution could not be hindered by military expedition since it was sprung from among the people.

Praising endeavours and services of martyr Chamran, the defence minister said that Dr. Chamran devoted his life to Islam and was like a shining star in the sky of the Islamic revolution.

In an announcement on the same occasion, the Majlis Monday called on the people to take part in ceremonies to be held at Jam'iat-ol-Imam al-Sadeq in Tehran this evening.

The announcement read that with Chamran's martyrdom not only Iranians but orphan children and homeless Shi'as of south Lebanon as well as all the world's oppressed lost a supporter.

Majlis Speaker Denounces Iraq Over Executions

LD192259 Tehran IRNA in English 1935 GMT 19 Jun 83

[Text] Tehran, June 19, IRNA — The Ba'thist regime by martyring some six family members of the late Ayatollah Seyyed Mohse al-Hakim, proved that it is facing a grave situation, said the Majlis Speaker Hojjat ol-Eslam Akbar Hashemi-Rafsanjani here today.

Speaking in the open session of the Majlis he said that this shameful crime was similar to those that the former Pahlavi regime committed in its last days in Iran. "This senseless and unimaginable violence showed nothing but despair, anxiety and weakness in making proper decisions," he said. He further told deputies that, faced with such a weakness, the Iraqi Ba'thist regime was taking revenge of the ulema and Islam.

However, he continued, the Iraqi regime and superpowers have forgot that the main reason for their problems, was nothing but their own crimes. In another part of his speech Hojjat ol-Eslam Hashemi-Rafsanjani deplored silence of ulema from the Islamic world towards this savage ideological centers of Shi'a and Sunni Muslims would just simply ignore the incident.[sentence as received]

He further criticised silence of the so-called human rights organisations towards arrest of some 60 family members of the late Iraqi religious leader, Ayatollah al-Hakim. These organisations which make too much noise about execution of a terrorist, have turned a blind eye on the arrest of the sixty.

If the Iraqi people had not remained silent when the late Ayatollah Bakr Sadr and his sister were martyred by the Iraqi regime, and had protested to this savage crime, they would not have been in their present situation, had not given so many lives in war fronts and their country had not suffered such damages, he added.

At the end he said that if Iraqis repeated the experience of the Iranian people, with the support of the Islamic Republic, that of the Iraqi Army and the revolutionary Muslims of Iraq, this inhuman move of Saddam would be a turning point and would result in Saddam's downfall and revival of Islam in the region.

Some 200 Majlis deputies in a letter to the leader of the revolution and founder of the Islamic Republic of Iran, Imam Khomeyni, condemned the latest crime of the Iraqi ruler. In part of the letter the deputies urged the Iraqi people to intensify their armed struggle against the Iraqi regime and the Iraqi Ba'thist Party.

Most of the deputies who spoke in the session also lashed out at the Iraqi regime and condemned its savage crimes against the Iraqi ulema. The session ended at noon and the next session is scheduled for next Tuesday.

Joint Staff Armed Forces Communique No 1,352

LD201712 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 20 Jun 83

[Communique No 1,352 of Joint Staff of Armed Forces of Islamic Republic of Iran]

[Text] In His exalted name. The brave combatants of Islam in the southern fronts yesterday brought enemy personnel and war equipment under their heavy artillery and mortar fire. As a result, enemy efforts to repair its positions or to create communications bunkers were obstructed along the entire battlefront.

In the (Pichangizeh) region and west of (Koshk), enemy patrols, trying to infiltrate our forces' defensive lines got near but our forces reacted quickly and enemy moves were halted.

Our combatant units stationed on Arvand Rud [Shatt al-'Arab] embankment opened fire on the Saddamist concentrations across the river, destroying a number of aggressors' bunkers and observation posts.

On the western operational zone over the past 24 hours, fire continued to be exchanged on most of the border fronts of Ilam and Bakhtaran. Along one of the country's western fronts, a combat patrol group was dispatched to the enemy defensive positions under fire cover and clashed with Iraqi forces, inflicting losses on them as well as taking a number of weapons as spoils of war.

In the Marivan region, the brave combatants of Islam destroyed some enemy positions and fortifications and also halted enemy light and heavy weapons fire.

Yesterday, two Iraqi soldiers gave themselves up to the combatants of Islam in the west of the country and asked for asylum.

[Signed] The Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran

Guards Corps Issues Call for Volunteers for Fronts

LD172108 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 17 Jun 83

[Text] In a statement, the Central Headquarters of the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps has invited followers of His Eminence Aba Abdollah Hoseyn, [Shi'te third imam who was martyred during the month of Ramadan], peace be upon him, who love the Islamic revolution and would like to volunteer to go to the battlefronts to defend and protect Islam and the Islamic revolution's great achievements, whether they are already enlisted for redraft or are volunteers, to answer the master of the martyrs and freedom lovers' call of [Koranic verse indistinct] for presence at the warfronts, to come forward and call at the mobilization unit of the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps Headquarters in Tehran and other cities.

Forces Barrage Enemy, Inflict Casualties

LD182202 Tehran IRNA in English 1926 GMT 18 Jun 83

[Text] Bakhtaran, June 18, IRNA — Movements and activities of the Iraqi forces were checked over the past 24 hours as the Islamic combatants barraged the enemy's positions in the western fronts and inflicted some losses and casualties upon the latter.

In these operations a number of Iraqi troops were killed or wounded while the Iranian defenders destroyed three enemy tanks, four vehicles and several group bunkers and dug-outs.

Also, the enemy's positions on the Mehran front of Ilam Province were subjected to the Islamic forces fire which smashed one Iraqi jeep equipped with a 106mm gun and several trenches as well as killing or wounding more enemy soldiers during Friday.

Further Western Front Successes

GF191644 Tehran IRNA in English 1625 GMT 19 Jun 83

[Text] Bakhtaran, June 19, IRNA — More than 40 Iraqi soldiers were killed before dawn Saturday as the Islamic combatants, carrying out a successful combat patrol operation, penetrated the enemy's positions in one of the region's of Gilan-e Gharb battlefronts, in Bakhtaran Province.

Meanwhile, heavy weapons fire was traded between the two sides in the other western fronts where the Iranian defenders, halting all the enemy's movements, set ablaze one Iraqi motor patrol and killed or wounded more enemy troops over the past 24 hours.

Two Wounded in 18 June Iraqi Air Attack

GF191638 Tehran IRNA in English 1627 GMT 19 Jun 83

[Text] Baneh, June 19, IRNA — Two innocent people were wounded and a part of the agricultural lands was destroyed when the Iraqi war planes attacked two villages of Baneh, in Kordestan Province, at 05:30 hours Saturday.

The earlier Iraqi bombardment of Baneh's residential areas took place on Wednesday, May 25, resulted in the martyrdom of eight civilians and the wounding of 73 others. The areas hit in this savage attack were inspected by the U.N.'s delegation visiting the devastated war zones in Iran.

Islamic Forces Gain Control of Axis in Kordestan

LD191738 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 19 Jun 83

[Text] The Seyyed ash-Shohada Headquarters reports that the Islamic combatants yesterday succeeded in creating a 35-km operational axis along the Mahabad-Bukan-Sar Dasht triangle and liberating the remaining 30 km along the Mahabad-Sar Dasht axis. Having completed mopping-up operations in nearby villages the combatants have thus brought this sensitive axis —

which had been controlled by armed rebels since the victory of the Islamic Revolution — under full control.

It is worth mentioning that all the axes leading to Mahabad are now under the control of the Islamic forces, with traffic being conducted normally. Furthermore, the Islamic fighters succeeded yesterday in launching a surprise attack on a counterrevolutionary organizational base located along the mountainous axis of south Mahabad and, having established their control over the villages of Mir Deh, (Khan Zoli), and (Barreh Ju), killed 12 armed rebels and arrested 3 others. In these operations the Islamic combatants destroyed 4 enemy vehicles and captured 12 firearms, some organizatonal documents, and medical supplies.

400,000 Afghan Refugees Reportedly Arrive

NC171847 Paris AFP in English 1823 GMT 17 Jun 83

[Excerpt] Geneva, June 17 (AFP) — Iran has said that some 400,000 Afghan refugees recently arrived there, a spokesman for the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) said here today.

Iran said last year that some 1.5 million refugees had crossed over from war-torn Afghanistan and Tehran authorities have now asked the UNHCR for help to provide tents as temporary shelter for this latest refugee influx.

A UNHCR spokesman [said] the organization had set aside one million Swiss francs (2.2 million dollars) in the first aid programme for Iran.

Tudeh Party Leader Reportedly Executed

PM211138 London The Daily Telegraph in English 21 Jun 83 p 4

[David Adamson report: "Communist Executed in Iran"]

[Text] Dr Nureddin Kianuri, 75, Iran's leading communist, has been executed in the Evin Prison, according to an unconfirmed report from Tehran yesterday.

Dr Kianuri, secretary-general of the banned Tudeh Party, had been in jail since his arrest in February. At the end of April he put on show in a television interview in which he confessed to having spied for the Russians.

Friends who saw him on television believe, on the evidence of his appearance, that he was tortured into making a grovelling admission of guilt.

"There was espionage, deceit, treachery; all of those were there," he declared. "These are serious aberrations and, in my opinion, they deserve the most severe punitive actions that the Islamic Republic may decide to mete out."

The execution is believed to have taken place yesterday. There was no official confirmation but it is not unusual in Iran for several days to elapse between an execution and its announcement.

The regime has rounded up about 1,500 members of the Tudeh Party, whose total strength is 10,000. Most of the central committee are in jail.

Dr Kianuri spent 20 years in exile in East Germany and Russia. He returned to Iran after the overthrow of the shah.

'Radio Iran' Reports Further on Bazargan Arrest

GF181616 (Clandestine) Radio Iran in Persian 1330 GMT 18 Jun 83

[Text] The rumor of the arrest of Mehdi Bazargan, the Majlis deputy, has surfaced following a congress of Nehzat-e Azadi. Sources close to Nehzat-e Azadi in Europe had previously announced that this political organization will hold a congress in Tehran to be attended by 200 members. Various factions of the Islamic Republic regime including the imami and hojjatiyeh factions strongly opposed the congress and following this, the rumor concerning the arrest of engineer Mehdi Bazargan by the Islamic republican regime has surfaced.